

PROCRAERUS TIBIALIS BOIS. & LAC., AND OTHER BEETLES IN MOCCAS PARK, HEREFORDSHIRE. — Mr. A. A. Allen (1971) in his summary of distribution known to him, states that *Pro-craerus tibialis* Bois. & Lac. has only once been found in Moccas Park (by the late E. C. Bedwell, *vide* Ashe)*, and as remains only. I am now able to confirm the presence of *tibialis* in the Park. On 15th May, 1977, my wife found a single specimen in the very dry red-rotten part of a fair-sized fallen oak branch (about 50 cm. diameter at the largest end). Further searching turned up two more, making a total of two males and one female. During the search a single *Trox scaber* (L.), *Xestobium rufovillosum* (Degeer) and *Phyllodecta laticornis* Suff. were also captured. All the beetles were in a very torpid state, presumably still in hibernation owing to the late season and cold weather of early May.

The lake, which after last summer's drought had dried up completely, was now full. Despite a long session with the water-net only a few specimens of *Hygrotus decoratus* (Gyll.) were captured. Under floating branches and posts, *Dryops auriculatus* (Fourcroy) was not uncommon. The strand-line refuse at the lake margin, particularly at the north-eastern corner, was very productive, *Paederus litoralis* Grav., *P. fuscipes* Curtis being abundant, with *Euaesthetus ruficapillus* Bois. & Lac. locally very common. A single *Stenus formicetorum* Mannh. and *Stenolophus mixtus* (Hb.) were taken, as were a selection of the other species which included such common things as *Elaphrus riparius* (L.), *Bembidion dentellum* (Thunberg), *Pterostichus vernalis* (Panzer), and *Agonum marginatum* (L.).

In my last note concerning Moccas Park (Cooter, 1976), a most careless error went undetected — my recording of the non-British *Taphrorychus villifrons* (Dufour) from beech. (The insect introduced to our List by Donisthorpe, proving, after long and confusing reappraisal, to be *Xyleborus dryophagus* (Ratzeburg).) The scolytid I captured is *X. saxeseni* (Ratzeburg) = *xylographus* auct. Brit. *nec* (Say) (*teste* A. A. Allen).

I would like to express my thanks to Mr. L. Slaney for granting access and permission to collect in Moccas Park, and the Nature Conservancy Council for assistance toward travelling expenses.

References: Allen, A. A., 1971. *Pro-craerus tibialis* Lac. (Col., Elateridae) in Wilts. and Herts. *Ent. mon. Mag.*, **107**: 12. Cooter, J., 1976. A Note on some Beetles captured in Moccas Park, Herefordshire, during 1975. *Ent. Rec.*, **88**: 319-320. — J. COOTER, Department of Natural History, Art Gallery and Museum, Kelvingrove, Glasgow.

* A note penciled in Ashe's copy of "Fowler" — now in my possession — against *tibialis* reads "Hartlebury June 18-24 1924, May 1928 5specs., '29 1spec.". Presumably the first date applies to a series of captures between the two dates, although there is no indication of this. This would seem to be an unpublished record, although the county — Worcestershire — is included in Mr. Allen's note.